

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed November 7, 2007, in which Claims 1 through 14 were subject to a restriction requirement.

Claims 6, 7, 10, 12 and 14 are cancelled herein. New Claims 15 through 20 are added. Accordingly, Claims 1 through 5, 8 through 10, 11, 13 and 15 through 20 are pending.

All changes made are based upon the application as originally filed. The new claims are based on original claims as set forth below. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added and no new issue is raised.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the transcriptional promoter is selected from the group consisting of a Type I Pol III promoter and a promoter containing one or more essential elements of a Type I Pol III promoter based upon original Claims 2 and 3.

Claims 2, 3, 4 and 5 have been amended for consistency with newly-amended independent Claim 1. Claims 6 and 7 have been cancelled also for consistency with newly-amended independent Claim 1.

Claims 8 and 9 have been amended to correct certain typographical errors. Claim 9 has also had its dependency changed from "Claim 1" to "Claim 8—".

NEW CLAIMS

Except for their dependencies new Claims 15 and 16 are identical with Claim 8 as amended herein.

Except for their dependencies new Claims 17 and 18 are identical with original Claim 11.

Except for their dependencies new Claims 19 and 20 are identical with original Claim 13.

RESTRICTION

Applicants are required to elect between Group I (Claims 1 – 9, 11 and 13), Group II (Claim 10), Group III (Claim 12), and Group IV (Claim 14).

Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I without traverse. In so electing Applicants reserve the right to file continuation applications on one or more of the non-elected Groups II, III, and IV.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims as currently presented are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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